



THE MESSENGER

JULY 2025

SAINTS PETER & PAUL

p.i

A Message from Father Rick

Father Richard Demetrius Andrews

Greetings Brothers and Sisters:

We are looking forward to the assignment of **Fr. Peter Sarolas** as our associate priest starting July 15th. *Fr. Rick* and *Fr. Peter* were classmates from seminary. He and *Presvytera Maria* have three sons: *Yianni*, *Vasili*, and *Stefanos*. *Fr. Peter* has served at St George Church Chicago for the last six years. His first Sunday will be July 20th. The Parish Council will host a welcome luncheon that day. See later in this month's newsletter or a full biography.

This past month we've had quite bit of activity...

Junior Olympics took place *May 25-26*. See photos later in newsletter. Thanks to all our coaches and parents for their help.

Congratulations to our **Agape School** graduates. The ceremony took place on *May 28* with lots of grand/parents in attendance. Thank you to our director *Julie Mantice* and teachers: *Saints-Margaret Jesse*, *Georgia Nelleson*; Apostles- *Dionna Nikas*, Doves- *Sandy O'Malley*, Disciples- *Jovana Jevtic*, *Seong Park-McGarry*, Fishermen- *Jennifer Kyriakopoulos*, and *Kristine Bartholomew*.

Congratulations also to our **Greek School** graduates and students. The program took place on *May 31st* with many grand/parents in attendance. We thank our dedicated director and teacher *Stella Theoharopoulos*.

Mission Team Chicago hosted their annual fundraising/awareness dinner at SSPP on *June 3rd*. We welcomed development director *Dan Christopoulos*, events coordinator *Elaine Drikakis*, keynote speaker *Fr. Luke Veronis* and many faithful supporters from our parish and other Orthodox communities. The Latto Center atrium provided a nice atmosphere for over 150 persons in attendance. *Fr. Luke* spoke about the life, legacy and teachings of Archbishop Anastasios of Albania.

Agape Summer Camp completed three weeks in June and runs two more weeks until *July 11*.

Vacation Church School (VCS) took place *June 9-13* with about 75 children participating. The theme was 'Orthodoxy in the World.' Thanks to youth director *Steven Thell*, as well as Agape Camp staff for running a creative and fun week including fun day on Friday.

Our **Metropolitan Nathanael's Nameday** was *June 11*. We pray many more years of pastoral leadership rightly teaching the Word of Truth! *June 11th*. Later that evening we will hold our **Ministry Council** meeting where we bring together the leaders of all our various ministries to discuss important issues and plan the future together

Father's Day was *June 15* and we thank all Metropolitan Nathanael for being our spiritual as well as all our fathers, grandfathers, godfathers and

father-figures for all that you do for us!

I wish to thank our **ministerial staff** for all their dedication and hard work for our parish on their work anniversaries: *Elea Bentley* (3 years); *Julie Mantice* (3 years) and *Steven Thell* (2 years). Great job!

On *Tuesday June 17* we hosted a speaking event by **Fr. Vasileios Thermos** who talked about his two latest books: *The Dramatic Journey of Faith* (about convert journeys to Orthodoxy) and *The Alliance of Compassion and Integrity* (about pastoral treatment of homosexuality and the queer movement).

Our third annual **Animal/Pet Blessing service** was *June 7* with about 20 people participating. Holy Pentecost was *June 8* and All Saints on *June 15*. Our **Parish Feast Day** was on *June 28-29*.

No Saturday Vespers during the Summer except for a few major festal periods (e.g. Pentecost on *June 7* and SSPP Feast on *June 28*).

Coming this month of July, we look forward to...

Summer Hours for Sunday Divine Liturgy (start 9am) began on *June 1st* and extends through the end of August. By starting earlier, we'll finish earlier and have more of the day to enjoy the weather and time with family and friends.

The office will be closed for the **Independence Day holiday** on *Friday July 4*.

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SS Peter & Paul

Check out our
new children's bulletin

IN EVERY SUNDAY BULLETIN
AND FRIDAY EMAILS

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Rev. Dn. Theodore Saclarides, M.D.

Summer Sunday Hours:

Matins 7:45am & Divine Liturgy 9am

Sunday & Weekly Services

Matins 8:15 am

Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

Church Office Hours:

Mon.-Thurs. 9:00am-5:00pm

Friday: 9:00am-3:00pm

Parish Administrator: Elea Bentley
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Bookkeeper: Diane Bravos
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2025 Parish Council:

President: Steve Koulogeorge

Vice President: Christy Gouletas

Secretary: Sophia Castleberry

Corresponding Secretary: Julie Savopoulos

Treasurer: Nick Colis

Assistant Treasurer: George Seletos

Vanessa Adinamis

Mary Alukos

Keith Anderson

Christ Atsaves

George Karagianis

Angie Katsamakis

John Mackris

Maryann Rasmussen

Tracy Ronstadt

Jim Santos

PARISH MINISTRIES

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Acolytes: Steven Thell, acolytes@ssppglenview.org

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Care for Creation: John Kiriklakis, careforcreation@ssppglenview.org

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Dynamis Group: Joanne Trahanas, dynamis@ssppglenview.org

Georgia Photopulos Cancer Support Group:

Bud Photopulos and Phyllis Perivolidis

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Greek Dance: Anna Andrews, dance@ssppglenview.org

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Prospora: Tracy Ronstadt, prospora@ssppglenview.org

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Stewardship: George Karagianis, stewardship@ssppglenview.org

Sunday Coffee Fellowship: Carolyn Kolbaba

fellowship@ssppglenview.org

Ushers/Greeters: Bo LaMotte, ushers@ssppglenview.org

Welcome: Keith Anderson, Sylvia Creatura, welcome@ssppglenview.org

Young Adult League (YAL): Maria Mantice, Tommy Mantice

yal@ssppglenview.org

For Emergencies Only: Please call the main office number and access Fr. Rick's voicemail. Leave a message stating your emergency. If you do not receive a call back within 15 minutes, call again and leave a brief message.

PASTORAL MESSAGE

CONTINUED...

The second annual *Annette Starr Memorial Blood Drive* will take place on July 9.

Fanari Camp- Week 1 took place June 15-21 and Week 2 June 22-28. Subsequent sessions occur for the next three weeks thereafter.

Our **Greek Festival** will be held July 26-27. Please sign-up online to volunteer. There are many opportunities. Church tours will be 2, 4 and 6pm both days. Thanks to our committee for working hard to prepare these last several months.

Steven will be taking a group of high schoolers to Boston for a **youth pilgrimage** to the Hellenic College – Holy Cross Seminary July 28-31.

Metropolitan Nathanael issued a follow-up encyclical to his initial one on the **Catechumenate**. The latter reaffirms the continuation of the catechumen litany and prayer. It also clarifies that the fervent litany and prayer, along with the two prayers of the faithful prior to the Great Entrance be included and read out loud. Of course, the purpose is to further

emphasize and uplift the evangelical spirit of the parish communities and deepen the experience of the Divine Liturgy for all.

Does God take Summer vacation?

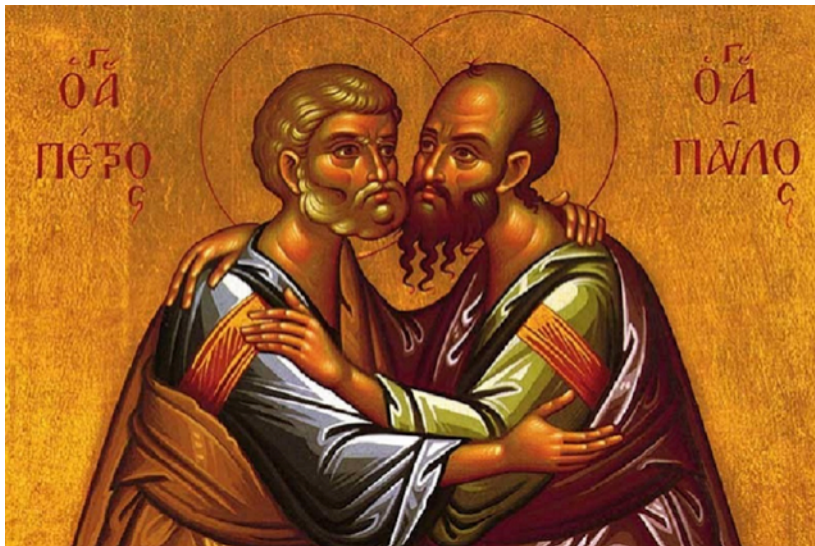
No, and neither does our parish. We are open throughout the summer and Divine Liturgies are scheduled for every Sunday and weekdays for major feasts and saints. Even though we do not have Church School classes, we should still come for Sunday Liturgy. If we are travelling for vacation, we should look to attend an Orthodox Christian Church nearby or on the way. Take a photo with your family inside or in front of the church and send to Fr. Rick if you'd like to share with the community. This is an excellent way to continue to center our life around God and to experience other parishes and styles of worship.

The **2025 Archdiocese Stewardship Theme** is “*See Our Church as it Could Be.*” A secondary, related theme is “*Your Own from Your Own, We Offer to You.*” The latter is the petition/prayer from the Divine Liturgy when the priest

raises the gifts of bread and wine. The point is whatever we give to God is not really ours. Rather it is a gift from Him that we offer back to Him with thanksgiving. Regarding the former theme, our parish can only reach its potential if we generously and sacrificially offer back what God has already given to us. In the coming weeks, we will have increased communications around the topic of stewardship.

God's guideline for giving is the tithe (10%). He gives us everything but only asks for ten percent in return. That's a pretty good deal. With a total (operations & capital) annual parish budget of \$1.7M we encourage everyone to strive towards tithing (10%) but **suggest a minimum of four percent (4%) annual giving.**

He has Ascended in Glory!
+Fr. Rick



FR PETER SAROLAS BIOGRAPHY

Fr. Peter was born in Chicago to Vasiliki and John of blessed memory. Sarolas grew up at St. Basil's Greek Orthodox Church parish.

With the Blessings of His Eminence *Metropolitan Iakovos* of blessed memory, he entered *Hellenic College* in Brookline, MA in the fall of 1987 where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1991. He then entered *Holy Cross School of Theology* (Seminary) where he received a Master of Divinity in 1994.

After graduating from Holy Cross School of Theology Fr. Peter worked at *St. Basil's Academy* in Garrison, New York from 1995 to the winter of 1998 as a Student Life Coordinator and Religious Education Instructor for the Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Grades. Fr. Peter's responsibility was after school activities for Kindergarten to Eighth Grade as well as creating the Religious Education Curriculum for the sixth to eighth grade. He was also instrumental in organizing the St. Basil Academy (Eagles) basketball team that took part in the Hellenic Orthodox Youth Commission. Fr. Peter was also responsible for assisting the students with any homework and tutoring.

After returning home (to Chicago) in the winter of 1998, Fr. Peter was offered a position at *Metropolis of Chicago* as Registrar. He was responsible for inputting all of the Death Certificates, Chrismations,

Birth and Baptismal Certificates into the database system of the Metropolis. Fr. Peter also issued Marriage Licenses as well as Wedding Certificates. Fr. Peter also mailed out any certificates that parishes needed. He accompanied His Eminence Metropolitan Iakovos of blessed memory at various public and ecclesiastical events. While working at the Metropolis, Fr. Peter worked closely with the offices of the Administrative Assistant, Chancellor, and Metropolitan with various tasks and responsibilities.

Fr. Peter was also a Youth Director at *Holy Trinity* Chicago from 1997 to 1999, at *St. Nicholas*, Oak Lawn from 2001 to 2004 and at *St. Andrew* 2004-2007. He also served on the *Greek Orthodox Athletic League* board as a layman and clergyman.

Fr. Peter married *Maria Karantonis*, a Learning Behavior Specialist and a Reading Specialist from Addison, IL in November 2005. They have three sons, *Yanni, Vasili, and Stefanos*.

Fr. Peter was ordained to the Diaconate by His Eminence Metropolitan Iakovos of blessed memory on January 1, 2007, the Feast Day of St. Basil and was ordained to the Holy Priesthood on May 20, 2007, at St. Demetrios Church in Chicago. He served as the associate pastor of *St. Demetrios Church* in Chicago from May of 2007 to February of 2014 and the community of Ss.

Constantine and Helen, in Rockford from February 2014 until December 31 of 2018.

Fr. Peter joined the parish of St. George on *January 1, 2019*, to present. In addition to Sacraments and services, Fr. Peter has assisted Fr. Chrysanthos in various programs such as: Hope/Joy, Biddy Basketball, GOYA, Junior Olympics, Altar Boys, Family Night, Orthodox Christianity Fellowship (OCF) DePaul University, Hellenic American Police Association (HAPA), Young Adults and Religious Education, Catechumens, organize readers the Agape Service as well as readers to recite the Our Father in various languages for International Sunday.

On April 23, 2023, His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael bestowed the Offikio of Ekonomos to Fr. Peter. Fr. Peter has also represented the Metropolis of Chicago at various events. Currently Fr. Peter serves as the Vice President of the Metropolis of Chicago Clergy Syndesmos.



YOUTH GROUP UPDATE

Hello Saints Peter and Paul,

I hope everyone is having a great start to the summer. As Father Rick would say, “*God does not take a summer vacation.*” We would love to see you and your kids at church if you are in town. We had a successful **Vacation Church School** this month. We combined forces with Agape summer camp and had 75 kids attend. Our theme was Orthodoxy around the World, and we learned about five different countries and a Saint associated with each country. During the week, we made blankets and cards for the children's hospital, visited the fire station, had a water day, among many other fun activities. Thank you to the wonderful volunteers at SSPP for making it a great week.

The junior and senior goyans had an **end-of-the-year BBQ celebration**. We went to vespers, then some of the kids grilled for us hamburgers, hot dogs, and corn. We ended the festivity with a bonfire and s'mores. It was a great year for GOYA. Be on the lookout this summer for more events and hangouts

We are preparing for our **pilgrimage** to Boston and New York next month. Our plan includes visiting several Orthodox churches and institutions, such as the monastery in Boston and the *Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church* in New York. This church was built on the site of the 9/11 attacks and serves as a shrine to honor those who were lost. We will be bringing eight of our Goyans on this pilgrimage to help deepen their faith.

Our **Greek Festival** is on July 26th and 27th. We will have a kids' zone. If any youth is interested in helping run some of the games and activities, please sign up with our festival bar code or contact me, and I can help you get signed up.



Group photo of VCS 2025 6/13/25



Goya BBQ group Photo 5/31/25

JUNIOR OLYMPICS

The 2025 Junior Olympics proved to be a triumphant event for Saints Peter & Paul, with our talented athletes bringing home an impressive array of medals. *Yianni Papadopoulos* and *Leo Papajohn* battled fiercely in duos Ping Pong, earning a well-deserved Gold medal through quick reflexes and precise shots.

The 10-12 year old 4 x 50 girls Relay Team featuring *Evelyn Adams*, *Andriana Kiriklakis*, *Mia Carrozza*, and *Arianna Gazis* took home the bronze medal in a close race. Their impressive speed and coordination were on full display.

Our 13-15 year old 4 x 100 Boys Relay Team featuring *Dean Alexis*, *Yianni Mallios*, *George Athanasopoulos*, and *John Fournier* took home the Gold Medal. Displaying their speed and quickness in a highly competitive race. *Triffen Adams* took home the Bronze medal in the 8-10-year-old 50-meter race. He was lightning speed out there.

Yianni Mallios blew away the competition for two golds in the boys 13-15 year old 100 and 400 meter races. His persistence and speed were remarkable.

Katherine Cotromanes, competing in the 25-meter freestyle category, swam her way to a bronze medal, showing remarkable talent and determination. She was first in her heat.

Lia Mackris again showcased her versatility in swimming styles by winning a silver in 50 meter backstroke and bronze in the 50 meter butterfly.

We had multiple team sports that competed at a high level throughout the Olympics. They showed great class and determination throughout. One highlight was our 7 to 9 year old soccer team, which took home 4th place in a closely contested game.

Thank you to all the coaches for volunteering your time and to the parents who stepped up to help make the Olympics the best experience possible for the kids. Saints Peter and Paul truly appreciate your dedication and commitment. We are looking forward to the next Junior Olympics and want to remind everyone that it's never too early to start recruiting!

Congratulations to all our athletes for their remarkable achievements and for making our Saints Peter & Paul community proud!



Arianna Gazis, Andriana Kiriklakis, Mia Carrozza, and Evelyn Adams with their bronze medals.



Athletes carrying the SSPP Banner during the opening ceremonies.



Co-Ed soccer team photo



Group photo of Girls team volleyball

MODERN HERESIES PT 3

HUMANISM

Humanism is any system or mode of thought or action in which human interests, values, and dignity predominate. Its Philosophy is variety of ethical theory and practice that emphasizes reason, scientific inquiry, and human fulfillment in the natural world and often rejects the importance of belief in God.

Closely related to humanism is **Agnosticism** which is an intellectual doctrine or attitude affirming the uncertainty of all claims to ultimate knowledge. It includes a denial of knowledge about whether there is or is not a God. An agnostic insists that it is impossible to prove that there is no God and impossible to prove that there is one.

However, elevating God does not imply or require the demeaning or denigration of human persons. In fact, elevating God elevates humanity. God Himself has elevated humanity.

²⁷ *So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.* (Genesis 1:27)

³¹ *Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.* (Genesis 1:31)

God's commandments are not meant to put-down or control humanity, as if God were on some power trip. Rather, the commandments of God are meant to elevate humanity to its highest calling and purpose. By drawing boundaries around proper and improper behavior, God was charting a course, clearing a path for humanity to follow in order to arrive at his destination.

The Apostle Paul wrote, ³ *For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,* ⁴ *who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.* (1Timothy 2:3-4). 'Saved = eternal life/'

God went even farther than this.

At the appropriate time, God Himself takes our humanity upon Himself to redeem and save it/us, to show us how to live as human beings. St. Athanasios the Great (+373) said, "God became man so that man might become God."

Not only did God take on our humanity, He took on every aspect of it and its experiences, including suffering and death. By the Resurrection of Christ, God saved humanity from the dead-end of death. When Christ ascended from earth to heaven (Acts 1:9-11), Jesus raised humanity higher than ever before, bringing it with Him to the Godhead, when He sat at the right hand of God the Father (Mark 16:19).

⁶ *Are not five sparrows sold for two copper coins? And not one of them is forgotten before God.* ⁷ *But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.* (Luke 12:6-7)

So what happens when we remove God from the equation or at least drop Him from His number one ranking in our life? The result is an inversion of morals and values because there is no absolute truth. Morals become relative and changing.

"Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light and light for darkness; who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!" (Isaiah 5:20).

"A time is coming when men will go mad, and when they see someone who is not mad, they will attack him, saying, 'You are mad; you are not like us.'" (St. Anthony the Great +356)

Humanity itself will be redefined. And this is the anthropological crisis of our time. In the age of the Seven Ecumenical Councils, Christology (words/study about nature of Christ) was the hotly debated topic. Today the debate centers on the nature of humanity, man and woman.

The **sexual revolution** of the 1960s led to the elevation of **abortion** as a

civil right. Our bodies became instruments of self-gratification and other persons' bodies became objects to be used and dispensed with when no longer useful or impinging on our right to freedom and self-determination.

Within the broader culture, the debate recently suffered another setback regarding the sinfulness of **homosexuality**. Now, it is no longer sinful and in many ways, it is lauded as good, even holy. Now, two men or two women can be married civilly and/or religiously with the blessings of the State and so-called "churches."

The current battleground is **transgenderism**—the belief that a person can determine his/her own gender, regardless of physical anatomy. The subtle or implied message is that the person is no longer a psychosomatic unity but rather an assembly of parts, devoid of a supernatural soul and a body created in the image and likeness of God.

LGBTQIA+ The acronym stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex, asexual, and the + holds space for the expanding and new understanding of different parts of the very diverse gender and sexual identities.

All this moral confusion is the result of secular humanism. That is not to mention the disastrous experiment of Communism that cost upwards of 100 million human lives in the 20th century. Under Communism, humans become a commodity for service to the State, even against their will.

The Apostle Paul wrote about this dynamic...

¹⁸ *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,*

¹⁹ *because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it*

to them. ²⁰ *For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are*

MODERN HERESIES PT 3

CONTINUED...

clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, ²¹because, **although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God**, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

²²Professing to be wise, they became fools, ²³and **changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man--and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.** ²⁴Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, ²⁵who **exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is**

blessed forever. Amen. ²⁶For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. ²⁷Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due. ²⁸And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; ²⁹being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, ³⁰backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,

³¹undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; ³²who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them. (Romans 1:18-32)

¹I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you **present**

your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. ²**And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.** (Romans 12:1-2)

The Prophet Isaiah prophesied about this several hundred years before Christ. ⁸"For **My thoughts are not your thoughts**, Nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD. (Isaiah 55:8)

The epic failure of Secular Humanism also occurred under Nazi Fascism but took a different form, one that was influenced by Darwinian Evolutionary theory applied to humans.

Darwinism is the Darwinian theory that species originate by descent, with variation, from parent forms, through the natural selection of those individuals best adapted for the reproductive success of their kind. It is a theory of biological evolution developed by the English naturalist Charles Darwin (1809-1882) and others, stating that all species of organisms arise and develop through the natural selection of small, inherited variations that increase the individual's ability to compete, survive, and reproduce. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Darwinism>

Natural selection is the differential survival and reproduction of individuals due to differences in phenotype. It is a key mechanism of evolution, the change in heritable traits of a population over time. Charles Darwin popularised the term "natural selection", and compared it with artificial selection. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_selection

Evolution is change in the heritable characteristics of biological populations over successive generations. [1][2]

Evolutionary processes give rise to biodiversity at every level of biological organization, including the levels of species, individual organisms, and molecules. [3]

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Evolution>

Next month – Modern Heresies Part 4 - Rationalism

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Welcome our newest member to our parish:
John and Astrid Bournas & Panagiotis Kontos



Fr. Peter Sarolas family photo



40 Day Churching - Megan Hanson & Baby Beau



AGAPE Grads

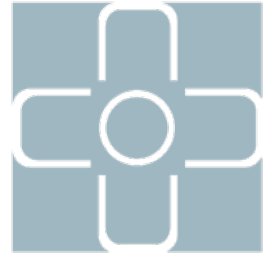


Baptism - Niko Broches



AGAPE Graduation

OUR LIFE TOGETHER



College Grads Michael Katsamkis & Alex Kardasis



Memorial Day at Cemetery



Animal Blessing Service 6-7-2025

OUR LIFE TOGETHER



Fr Vasileios Thermos 6-17-2025



OCMC Dan Christopulos & Fr Luke Veronis



Greek School Students



Greek School Grads



Greek School Families

SAINT STEPHEN MEN'S GROUP

MEN'S GROUP RECAP

It's a wrap on another year of activities. We want to thank Fr Rick and the Parish Staff for helping us make it a great year.

Here are some highlights.

-The Thursday morning study group tackled the Book of Acts in the fall and --Alexander Schemenmen's "For the Life of the World" this spring.

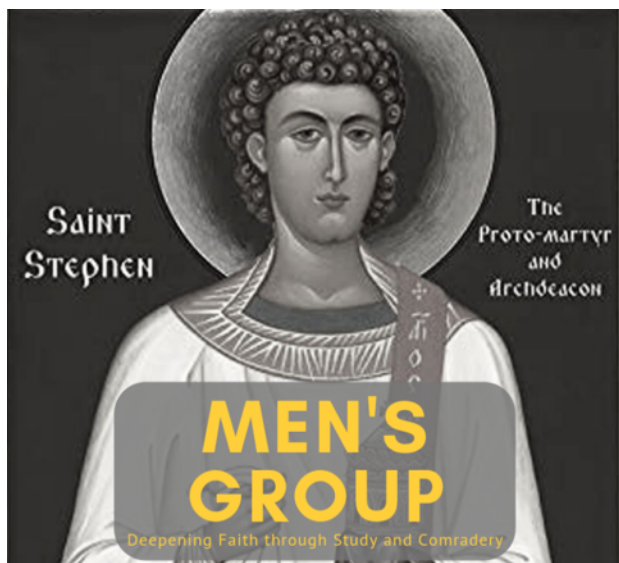
-Prison Outreach helping with the Holiday Angel Tree Gift Project

-Fellowship at North Branch and the Annual Men's Dinner benefiting: Saints Peter and Paul & The Seal Future Foundation

-Habitat For Humanity Lake County workdate this spring

-Spring Family Nature walk at the MiddleFork Savanna in Lake Forest.

Interested in joining the Thursday morning study group and engaging in fellowship opportunities? Go to <https://sspoglennview.org/st-stephens-mens-group/> to be added to our mailing list. To learn more contact Zach and Brad at mensgroup@sspoglennview.org.



2025 GRADUATES

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



Chase Danby - Glenbrook South High School Chase has thrived in the sports journalism realm, hosting his own show, The Chase on WGBK radio, and announcing various high school sports. He played GBS and FC Mirage soccer throughout high school, and received an Illinois State Scholar award. Eastern Illinois University- Broadcast Journalism major, Sports Media Relations minor



Olivia Lehocky - Vernon Hills High School Olivia is a member of the National Honor Society, she will be an honors graduate for having a GPA above a 4.00. She has also won her school's Sugarman award for excelling in French. University of Tampa, Major: Nursing Minor: French



Thomas Paradies - Glenbrook South High School Tommy is a member of the National Honor Society and Investments Club. He enjoys playing on the GBS Varsity Lacrosse team, the GBS Golf Team and hosting a sports radio show. Finance major at Indiana University - Kelley School of Business

2025 GRADUATES

COLLEGE AND POST COLLEGE GRADUATES



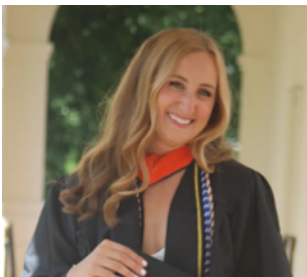
Michael Katsamakis, a recent graduate with a Master's in Architecture from the University of Michigan, is actively seeking employment at an architectural firm in Chicago. Michael was recognized as a finalist for both Best Thesis and Best Project Representation and served on the Dean's Advisory Board during his studies. His academic achievements and leadership experience reflect a strong foundation for a successful career in the field.



Gabrielle Scannell earned her Master's degree in Social Work with a concentration in Mental Health from the University of Illinois-Chicago, along with a certificate in Integrative Behavioral Health for Children and Adolescents. While maintaining a perfect 4.0 GPA, she completed two rigorous internships and worked full time throughout her graduate studies. Gabrielle previously earned her Bachelor of Science in Psychology with a concentration in Child Development from the University of Illinois in just three years. She has accepted a position as a counselor at OMNI Youth Services, where she will provide one-on-one therapy to children and adolescents, facilitate group therapy in local high schools, and support at-risk runaway youth through the crisis department.



Alexander Kardasis is graduating from Northwestern University this summer. He completed his studies in December 2024. He is graduating on June 15 from Northwestern College of Arts and Science. He majored in economics and will be starting a job as a consultant with Huron Consulting. During his time at Northwestern he was also actively involved in filmmaking.



Bella Abbott earned her Master of Engineering in Systems Engineering from the University of Virginia. Bella has demonstrated a strong commitment to analytical thinking, problem-solving, and innovation throughout her academic journey.

4TH OF JULY PARADE



**GET YOUR RED, WHITE & BLUE
ON... AND COME WALK WITH US IN
GLENVIEW'S JULY 4TH PARADE!**

Have you ever wanted to march in a real holiday parade? Now's your chance! Glenview's parade is only 10 blocks in length and starts at 11:20am. We'll be representing Saints Peter & Paul to promote our upcoming Greek Fest and mark the church's 65th anniversary. All adults, young people and families with strollers are welcome to participate!

To sign up contact Steven Thell, steven@ssppglenview.org, or Elaine Buscaglia, ebuscaglia24@gmail.com, or visit the Greek Fest table during Sunday fellowship.



GREEK FEST 2025

What's the Best Part of Volunteering at Our Greek Fest? ...the New Friendships You'll Make!



Some of the most enduring (maybe even surprising) friendships among parishioners got started at a festival. Working side by side to grill souvlaki, dip loukoumades, slice gyros or package dinner or mezze orders provides plenty of opportunity to get to know that person you occasionally shake hands with during Liturgy.



We still have many openings available, particularly in the 7-10pm time slot on both days. Get everyone in the family signed up. Appropriate spots for youths ages 12-18 are as food runners/table clean-up team, in the Kids Zone or serving ice cream.



**DON'T SIT ON THE SIDELINES –
SIGN UP NOW AND BE PART OF THE FEST'S SUCCESS!**



Scan the QR code to the left to access Sign-up Genius, where you'll see the dates, times and specific booths that still need volunteers.

JULY 26 & 27 • 1-10 PM

PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT LETTER

YES! IT'S SUMMER AND WE NEED YOU!!

With summer upon us, we have a ton of activities happening at Saints Peter and Paul. Beginning with the Great Vespers of Saints Peter and Paul on Friday June 28th through our Annual Parish Festival July 26th and 27th the joint will be jumping with activities. Speaking of our annual Parish Festival.

We already have 145 volunteers signed on to help out at the Fest, but could use many, many more to pitch in on the following Events/Activities:

- Festival tents/tables/chair set-up and tear downs,
- Publicity – brochures, flyers, sign distribution to Glenview and surrounding neighborhoods, villages,
- Social Media presence - (information and updates).
- Food Preparation – Before and during the Festival (includes food runners, table cleaners, dish washers)
- Booth Assignments
- Kid Zone – Goya/Jr. Goya/Youth volunteers to help on shifts
- Cash Runners

SSPP 65TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER DANCE

You should have already received your “Save the Date” on our upcoming 65th Anniversary dinner dance. MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!:

*October 26, (5:00pm- 10:00pm)
at The Westin Northshore, in Wheeling
Entertainment to be provided by Sarlas Music.*

The Committee still welcomes volunteers for our event. For more information, contact out Committee Chairs: Steve and Phaedra Koulogeorge who can be reached at: skoulogeorge@gmail.com and phaedrakoulogeorge@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jun 28 - Great Vespers for the Feast of SS Peter and Paul

Jun 29 - Orthros / Divine Liturgy SS Peter and Paul

Jun 23 - Jun 28 – Fanari Camp

Jun. 27 - Senior GOYA Bonfire and Volleyball

Jun 30 - July 5 – Fanari Camp

Jun 29 - July 2 – Agape Camp

July 4 - Independence Day (Office Closed)

July 7 – Jul 12– Fanari Camp

July 26 – Jul 27 – Saints Peter and Paul Annual “Greek Fest”

In Christ,
Steve J. Koulogeorge
Parish Council President

BOOK STORE AND MORE

BOOK AND ICON STORE

Summer isn't the time to take a vacation from your faith. Dig into God's Word and find deep refreshment for your heart, mind, and soul. Whether traveling to a vacation destination, relaxing on the beach, or simply lounging on your porch while sipping a glass of iced tea, you can renew your spirit in the study of Holy Scripture, our Holy Orthodox Faith, the lives of the Saints, Prayer and Meditation, and many other topics. Set an example for your children and encourage them to choose books that get them away from the tablets and phones and closer to our Lord. Stop into our bookstore soon and stock up on books for your Summer Reading!!

CHURCH SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Church School Registration for the 2025-26 school year is now open. Ages 3-High School DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 1st. <https://ssppglenview.org/cs/>

ANNUAL MINISTRY FAIR

Save the date: Our next Ministry Fair is planned for September 28, 2025 after church

REQUESTING VICARIATE COUNCIL VOLUNTEERS

Metropolitan Nathanael recently instituted a system of vicariate councils. Vicariates are regional bodies of parishes based on geography. Our parish belongs to the North Vicariate of Chicago along with the churches in Niles, Des Plaines, Lincolnshire, Palatine and Libertyville and is headed by the local vicar. Vicariate councils will consist of the vicar, the presiding priest of each parish and one lay representative from each parish. The council will meet at least quarterly. His Eminence is requesting lay volunteers to serve a two-year term. Each parish is asked to provide two volunteer nominees by July 28th. Metropolitan Nathanael will then pick one candidate to serve. If you're interested, please contact Fr. Rick.

STEWARDSHIP GOAL 2025

From the Stewardship Committee: Our goal for 2025 is \$925,000 to date we have \$355,000.



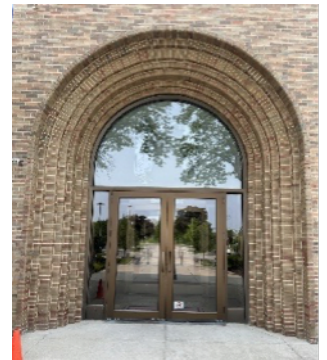
RENEWING OUR LORD'S HOME

UPDATE ON OUR LORD'S HOME

Capital projects are in full swing again this year thanks to your generous annual stewardship commitments and special donations. This year's masonry restoration and tuckpointing project targeting the west facades of the main church building has been completed. There was a significant number of fractured bricks along the parapet wall that needed to be replaced causing an increase in the final cost of this year's project.

The second and third of the five phases to restore the entire parking lot has also been completed. When several of the areas were milled, we found that they needed an unanticipated additional binder course. Thankfully, we were able to have the project completed within the approved budgeted amount.

The Latto Center Classroom Remodeling & Furnishings project will get underway August 3rd and the window replacements in the Latto Center classrooms, office and gym will start in mid-August.



Please continue your generous annual stewardship commitments to fund these projects.

PHILOPTOCHOS

Dear Beloved Parishioners of Saints Peter and Paul,

I am honored and truly excited to begin my term as President of the Philoptochos Society here at Saints Peter and Paul. It is a privilege to serve such a vibrant, talented, dedicated, and philanthropic group of women who embody the true spirit of Christian love and service.

Philoptochos has a rich tradition of compassion, generosity, and action — values I hold dear and am eager to continue building upon. Whether it's organizing fundraisers, supporting local families, preparing for our beloved feast days, or contributing to national initiatives, this group's impact is both meaningful and far-reaching.

I look forward to working closely with our dedicated Board and the entire membership as we plan engaging, purposeful, and even fun activities that not only bring us together in fellowship but also allow us to continue our mission of helping those in need.

With gratitude and enthusiasm, I invite all women of our parish — both longtime members and newcomers — to get involved. Your time, talents, and warm hearts are the very foundation of everything we do.

May our shared efforts be guided by faith, strengthened by unity, and filled with joy.

With love in Christ,

Julie Anastos
President, Philoptochos Society
Saints Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church



2025-2027 TERM OFFICERS

We are pleased to announce the SS Peter and Paul Philoptochos officers and committee chairman for the 2025-2027 term. Axios!

President – Julie Anastos
First Vice President - Joanne Trahanas
Second Vice President - Diane Economy
Treasurer - Eleni Soukoulis
Assistant Treasurer - Pam Paradies
Recording Secretary - Patrice Bazianos
Corresponding Secretary - Maria Gordon
Advisor - Dena Pavlopoulos
Ways and Means - Georgene Shanley
Membership - Patty Damisch and Tina Reimer
Bakery - Anastasia Gonzalez, Debbie Kunkel and Nancie Poulos
Programs - Annette Vranas
Philanthropy - Julie Mantice and Kris Tsitsis
Public Relations - Daphne Mazerakis
Hospitality - Maria Collins and Patty Stec
Parliamentarian - Maryann Rasmussen



And a special thank you to our new board members! (L to R) Daphne Mazerakis, Tina Reimer, Patty Damisch, Maria Gordon, and Maria Collins. Welcome! We are so grateful that you will be sharing your time and talent with us!



PHILOPTOCHOS

SENIOR APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

Parishioners of a “certain age” - don’t miss out on our Senior Appreciation Luncheon on Tuesday, August 19! This is often the highlight of the summer, with excellent food, great fellowship, and live entertainment by Grecian Formula. Based on what we saw last year, you may even need to wear your dancing shoes! The complimentary lunch is open to all our senior parishioners. RSVP by August 14 to Ida Haris at 847-309-9223 or Pat Nassos at patnassos@gmail.com. You can also reach out to volunteer to help us serve.



HONORING DENA PAVLOPOULOS

On Wednesday, June 18, approximately 100 guests took part in a lovely dinner in honor of our outgoing president, Dena Pavlopoulos, at Sunset Ridge Country Club. It was a beautiful evening to pay tribute to Dena, who has done so much for our chapter, our church, and our community. The event even included the performance of a song describing her as our Philoptochos Girl, with lyrics sung to Billy Joel's Uptown Girl, and sung by board members donning Dena masks. Beyond being attended by Fr. Rick, her family, SSPP parishioners, and parish council members, women from many other churches in our Metropolis attended, including 10 Metropolis Board Members. Thank you, Dena, for your incomparable service!



SAVE THESE DATES

Tuesday, July 22 - Baking Day in preparation for SSPP Greek Fest, beginning at 9:30 am

Saturday and Sunday, July 26 & 27 – SSPP Greek Fest 1 – 10 pm

Tuesday, August 19 – Senior Appreciation Luncheon at 12 pm

Saturday, September 20 - Chicago Metropolis Luncheon, “Spirit of Hope – Soaring through God’s Strength” at the Concorde

Saturday, September 27 – Children’s Medical Fund Luncheon in Atlanta, Georgia

GREEK SCHOOL



OUR PROGRAMS

Mondays Pre-K to 6 -> 4:30 - 6:30

Saturdays Pre-k -> 9:30 - 11:30

Kindergarten to 6 -> 9:30 - 12:30

FOR INFORMATION

Stella Theoharopoulos Cell (847) 529-5899

Email tiheostell@aol.com



Save the Date



**Saints Peter & Paul
Greek Orthodox Church**

65th Anniversary



Sunday, October 26, 2025

5:00pm Cocktail Reception

6:00pm Dinner & Dancing

**Westin Chicago North Shore-Grand Ballroom
601 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Wheeling, IL**

Black tie optional

BLOOD DRIVE



Annette Starr Celebrating Life Blood Drive

Wednesday, July 9
1 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Ss Peter and Paul Greek
Orthodox Church - Fellowship Hall
1401 Wagner Road, Glenview, IL 60025

To schedule an appointment please call
877.258.4825 or visit vitalant.org and
use code: **100560115** Or scan QR code.

Appointments recommended. Walk-ins welcome.
PREPARE: Eat well, Hydrate & Bring ID

For more information or to schedule a donation,
call 877.258.4825 or visit us at vitalant.org
Find us @vitalant:   

GIVE A PINT
GET A PINT



SCAN HERE TO SCHEDULE



Rev up the excitement with our Summer
Car Giveaway! Donate blood and cruise
your way into the chance to win a car,
valued up to \$30,000.* See
vitalant.org/CarGiveaway for more
details. Presenting donors will receive
a coupon for a pint of frozen custard
from Culver's.

vitalant 

Senior Appreciation Luncheon

HOSTED BY SS PETER AND PAUL
PHILOPTOCHOS

Tuesday-August 19
12:00pm

SS Peter and Paul Fellowship Hall

*Complimentary and open to all
our senior members*

Entertainment by
Grecian Formula

RSVP BY AUGUST 14

Ida Haris 847-309-9223
Pat Nassos -patnassos@gmail.com

JULY 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 +SS KOSMAS & DAMIANOS	2	3	4	5
	Fanari Camp Week 3				Independence Day Holiday OFFICE CLOSED	
		8pm Bball Men's YAL (pickup)	8:30pm Bball Men's over 40			
6 +4TH SUNDAY MATTHEW 7:45am ORTHROS-MATINS 9am DIVINE LITURGY 11:30am Greek Dance	7 +ST KYRIAKI GREAT MARTYR	8 +ST PROKOPIOS GREAT MARTYR	9 +ST BARTHOLOMEW / NATHANAEAL	10	11 +STS EUPHEMIA & OLGA EQUAL TO APOSTLES	12
	Fanari Camp Week 4					
	7pm Greek Fest Meeting	7pm Cancer Support - Xmas in July Demetri's Greek Restaurant in Deerfield 8pm Bball Men's YAL (pickup)	10am-5pm Annette Starr Memorial Blood Drive 8:30pm Bball Men over 40 (pickup)	10am Dynamis "Kali Parea" Breakfast at Georgie V's In Northbrook 6pm PC Exec Meeting	AGAPE Last Day of Camp	
13 +SYNAXIS OF ARCHANGEL GABRIEL +SUNDAY FATHER 4TH SYNOD	14	15	16	17 +ST MARINA GREAT MARTYR	18	19 +ST MACRINA VENERABLE
7:45am ORTHROS-MATINS 9am DIVINE LITURGY 11:30am Greek Dance						
	Fanari Camp Week 5					
		8pm Bball Men's YAL (pickup)	8:30pm Bball Men over 40 (pickup)	10am Dynamis "Kali Parea" Breakfast at Georgie V's In Northbrook 6pm Parish Health Team		
20 +6TH SUNDAY MATTHEW +PROPHET ELIJAH/ELIAS	21	22 +SS MARY MAGDALENE & MARKELLA	23 +PROPHET EZEKIEL	24 +Fr Dennis Latto reposed 1973 +ST CHRISTINA GREAT MARTYR	25 +DORMITION OF ST ANNA	26 +ST PARASKEVE MARTYR & HER- MOLAOS PRIEST-MARTYR
7:45am ORTHROS-MATINS 9am DIVINE LITURGY 11:30am Greek Dance	8pm Stewardship Mtg			10am Dynamis "Kali Parea" Breakfast at Georgie V's In Northbrook 7pm Parish Council Meeting		1pm-10pm 2025 SSPP Greek Fest 5pm VESPERS
27 +7TH SUNDAY MATTHEW +ST PANTELEIMON	28 +ST IRENE CHRYSOVALANTOU	29	30	31	COMING IN AUGUST	
1pm-10pm 2025 SSPP Greek Fest	Boston Youth Trip			Until Aug 2		
7:45am ORTHROS-MATINS 9am DIVINE LITURGY 10:30am Prison Ministry Sunday		8pm Bball Men's YAL (pickup)	8:30pm Bball Men over 40 (pickup)	10am Dynamis "Kali Parea" Breakfast at Georgie V's In Northbrook		
					1-15 FAST OF DORMITION 6 TRANSFIGURATION FEAST 15 DORMITION OF THEOTOKOS 19 Senior Appreciation Luncheon	29 BEHEADING OF FORERUNNER at SBJ Des Plaines 31 Vespers for Protection of Environment at OLPH

*1401 Wagner Road
Glenview, IL 60025*

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PETER
& PAUL

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